

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1        In a video coding apparatus, coding/decoding circuitry  
2   provides motion-compensated inter-frame prediction coding on input  
3   frames by using reference frames so that the input frames are coded  
4   into an intra-frame coded picture, a predictive coded picture or a bi-  
5   directionally predictive coded picture and decoding the coded  
6   frames to produce reference frames. Decision circuitry determines the  
7   magnitude of motion of the input frames relative to the reference  
8   frames, determines the interval between successive frames of the  
9   predictive coded picture according to the determined magnitude of  
10   motion and reorders the input frames according to the determined  
11   interval.